

### **IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-7 (Cancelled).

Claim 8 (Currently amended): ~~The polyurethane of claim 1 wherein the component A~~  
water-soluble or water-dispersible polyurethane comprising a reaction product of

- A) at least one polyether polyol a1) having an average functionality of  $\geq 3$   
and at least one urethane group-containing polyether polyol a2) having  
an average functionality of  $\geq 4$ .
- B) at least one C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>22</sub> monoalcohol.
- C) at least one (cyclo)aliphatic and/or aromatic diisocyanate
- D) ~~D) is an~~ a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> oxime and/or diamine with 2 to 18 carbon atoms.
- E) optionally at least one C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> monoisocyanate, and
- F) optionally at least one polyisocyanate having an average functionality  
of  $> 2$

wherein the starting NCO/OH equivalent ratio is between 0.5:1 to 1.2:1.

Claims 9-16 (Cancelled).

Claim 17. (New): The polyurethane of Claim 8, wherein the polyether polyol a1) has an average functionality of 3 to 4.

Claim 18. (New): The polyurethane of Claim 8, wherein the polyether polyol a1) has an average functionality of 4 to 6.

Claim 19. (New): The polyurethane of Claim 8, wherein component B) comprises a C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>22</sub> monoalcohol.

Claim 20. (New): The polyurethane of Claim 8, wherein component B) comprises a C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> monoalcohol.

Claim 21. (New): The polyurethane of Claim 8, wherein component B) comprises a C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>14</sub> monoalcohol.

Claim 22. (New): The polyurethane of Claim 8, wherein the component C) comprises a (cyclo)aliphatic diisocyanate.

Claim 23. (New): A process for the production of the water-soluble or water-dispersible polyurethane of Claim 8, comprising reacting

- A) a mixture of at least one polyether polyol a1) having a mean functionality of  $\geq 3$  and at least 1 urethane group-containing polyether polyol a2) having an average functionality of  $\geq 4$ ,
- B) at least one C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>22</sub> monoalcohol,
- C) at least one (cyclo)aliphatic and/or aromatic diisocyanate,
- D) a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> oxime and/or diamine with 2 to 18 carbon atoms,
- E) optionally at least one C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> monoisocyanate, and
- F) optionally at least one polyisocyanate having an average functionality of  $> 2$

at a starting NCO/OH equivalent ratio of 0.5:1 to 1.2:1.

Claim 24. (New): The process of Claim 23, wherein the urethane group-containing polyether polyol a2) comprises the reaction product of the polyether polyol a1) with a diisocyanate.

Claim 25. (New): The process of one of Claims 23 and 24, wherein the urethane group-containing polyether polyol a2) comprises the reaction product of the polyether polyol a1) with polyisocyanates having an average functionality of  $\geq 2$ .

Claim 26. (New): A process for adjusting the flow properties of an aqueous paint system, adhesive and another aqueous formulation comprising adding the polyurethane of Claim 8 thereto.

Claim 27. (New): An aqueous paint system, adhesive and another aqueous formulation comprising the polyurethane of Claim 8.